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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/817,374	
	Filing Date	March 26, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Delmorme et al.	
	Group Art Unit	1653	
	Examiner Name	Balasubramanian, V.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	19	Attorney Docket Number	MET-020US1

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Wayne A. Keown, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 33,923)
Signature	<i>W. A. Keown</i>
Date	2/27/04

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Delorme et al.  
**Serial No.:** 09/817,374 **Examiner:** V. Balasubramanian  
**Filed:** March 26, 2001 **Group Art Unit:** 1624  
**Entitled:** INHIBITORS OF HISTONE DEACETYLASE  
**Attorney:**  
**Docket No.:** MET-020US1 (1002/021)

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 11, 2003, please reconsider the above-referenced patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1-4, 6-21, 23-29, 42-43 and 47 have been found to be allowable upon amendment to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections. Such amendments are made below. Claims 30-33, 35-37 and 44 are rejected over Kukkola et al. as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102, or in the alternative as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). These rejections are traversed below.